

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 were examined.

The specification has been amended to add section headings and to revise page 1, line 11.

Claims 1-18 were rejected under section 112, second paragraph as indefinite.

The claims have been amended to remedy the stated bases of rejection. Claim 19-20 are new and are based on original claims 1-3. No new matter is entered by way of these amendments.

Withdrawal of the indefiniteness rejection is therefore solicited.

Rejections Under 35 USC 102, 103

Claims 1-2, 4-11, 13, 15-16 and 18 were rejected as anticipated by TAYLOR 6,267,765.

Claims 3, 12, 14, and 17 were rejected in view of STONE 5,443,482.

TAYLOR does not anticipate as TAYLOR discloses, as a quasi-complete sphere ball head terminating the stud and a quasi-complete spherical cavity at the end of the body.

See the first paragraph of specification page 3:

"The anchoring member according to the invention does not comprise therefore any spherical head [and] no shouldered nut for capturing this spherical head but [instead comprises] an articulation head in the form of a spherical cap retained in an articulation cavity by a wall crimped around said cavity."

In the specification, applicant has distinguished a "spherical cap" from a spherical head.

As discussed in the specification, this structure overcomes the height problem of the prior art.

Thus, the features of claim 1 (and new claim 19) are not anticipated.

The features of claims 2-3 and 20 are also not disclosed or suggested. TALLYOR does not teach or suggest a proximal gripping collar (18) with four radial notches (19) at 90° to one another, the notches extending through an entire thickness of said collar. TAYLOR only teaches a standard six faced nut-like portion. There is no reason that this nut-like portion would be modified to comprise notches.

Nor does STONE cure this defect.

Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

This response is believed to be fully responsive and to put the case in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendment, and an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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